

## Message Text

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53  
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W  
----- 023390

O R 171756Z DEC 73  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9330  
SECDEF WASHDC  
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 18116

EXDIS

LISBON, MADRID: FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY  
THE HAGUE ALSO FOR UNDER SECRETARY DONALDSEN  
VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL: GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PFOR, US, EEC, NATO, GW  
SUBJECT: U.S./EUROPEAN RELATIONS IN AFTERMATH OF NATO  
MINISTERIAL AND COPENHAGEN EC SUMMIT

1. IN DEC 17 DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR ON EC SUMMIT

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(SEPTEL), FONOFF POL DIRECTOR VAN WELL WAS IN EXCEEDINGLY SOMBER AND DEPRESSED MOOD CONCERNING PRESENT STATE OF AND IMMEDIATE PROSPECTS FOR U.S./EUROPEAN RELATIONS.  
UNLIKE CAUTIOUSLY UPBEAT REACTION WE OBTAINED LAST WEEK FROM FONOFF WORKING LEVEL (BONN 17976), VAN WELL SAID

NATO MINISTERIAL "WAS INCONCLUSIVE AND HAD NOT CLEARED THE AIR." BRITAIN AND FRANCE REMAINED IRRITATED AT BEING EXCLUDED FROM GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE AND THE NINE WERE IN STATE OF DEJECTION BY SEEMING HELPLESSNESS IN FACE OF EVER WORSENING DIMENSIONS OF OIL CRISIS. VAN WELL TOLD AMBASSADOR HE FEARED THAT "DEFENSE AREA ALSO COULD BE AFFECTED" IF U.S./EUROPEAN CONTRETEMPS DRAGGED ON AND TEMPERS BECAME INCREASINGLY RAGGED.

2. AS TO U.S./EC RELATIONS, VAN WELL SAID SOME EC-9 MEMBER STATES HAD GAINED IMPRESSION THAT THE SECRETARY WAS NO LONGER INTERESTED IN THE EC DECLARATION. THESE EC STATES, INCLUDING FRANCE AND BRITAIN, INTERPRETED SECRETARY'S COMMENTS AT QUADRIPARTITE DINNER AND MEETING WITH NINE FOREIGN MINISTERS AS VEILED EXPRESSION OF DISINTEREST. OTHER EC STATES, INCLUDING FRG, HOPED U.S. DID WISH TO CONTINUE EFFORT TO COMPLETE EC DECLARATION, IN VIEW OF SECRETARY'S STATEMENT TO THAT EFFECT IN NATO MINISTERIAL SPEECH AND IN MEETING WITH NINE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS. THESE EC STATES THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE WORTH WHILE TO EXPLORE U.S. CONCEPT OF SHORTER AND MORE POLITICAL RATHER THAN LEGALIZED TYPE OF DECLARATION. BUT VAN WELL SAID THAT EVEN THE GERMANS AND THOSE WHO SHARE THEIR IMPRESSION ARE CONFUSED AS TO WHAT THE U.S. REALLY WISHES TO DO REGARDING EC DECLARATION.

3. VAN WELL SAID HE FULLY SHARED JUDGMENT OF SIR ALEC THAT IT WOULD BE "VERY BAD" FOR U.S./EUROPEAN RELATIONS SHOULD EC DECLARATION EXERCISE BE TERMINATED. DESPITE DIFFICULTIES IN YEAR OF EUROPE, CONSIDERABLE GOVERNMENTAL AND PUBLIC SUPPORT HAD BEEN DEVELOPED WITHIN THE NINE COUNTRIES FOR DECLARATIONS. ABORTION

SECRET

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53  
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

----- 023380

O R 171756Z DEC 73  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
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SECDEF WASHDC  
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 18116

EXDIS

OF EC DECLARATION PROJECT ALSO MIGHT HAVE FALLOUT ON ATLANTIC DECLARATION. AND WITH VITALITY AND EFFICACITY OF BOTH EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND ALLIANCE CURRENTLY UNDER CLOUD IN PUBLIC EYE, AND ECONOMICS BEING SEVERELY THREATENED BY MIDEAST OIL CRISIS, ABRUPT ENDING OF EC DECLARATION PROJECT COULD IN VAN WELL'S VIEW BE MOST UNFORTUNATE.

4. VAN WELL SAID CHANCELLOR BRANDT AND FONMIN SCHEEL HAD MADE CLEAR THEIR WISH THAT BONN USE ITS PRESIDENCY OF EC, STARTING JAN 1, 1974, TO INTENSIFY U.S./EC

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CONTACTS. VAN WELL SAID DANES HAD BEEN UNWILLING TO MOVE WITHOUT EXPLICIT WRITTEN MANDATES FROM THE NINE, BUT CHANCELLOR AND FONMIN WISHED VAN WELL TO INTERPRET PRESIDENCY'S POWERS MORE GENEROUSLY ON THIS SCORE. WITH NEXT POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING DUE JAN 10-11 IN BONN, ECONOMIC PARAGRAPHS OF EC DECLARATION NOW IN HANDS OF DANISH PRESIDENT FROM PERM REPS AND DANES UNLIKELY TO TAKE ANY FURTHER STEPS, VAN WELL TOLD AMBASSADOR HE WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION REGARDING U.S. WISHES ON EC DECLARATION.

5. COMMENT: VAN WELL'S MOOD MAY HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY HIS OBVIOUS PHYSICAL WEARINESS AFTER MONTHS OF STRENUEOUS PERSONAL DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY. HE IS NORMALLY AN UP-BEAT OFFICIAL.

HILLENBRAND

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 10 MAY 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973BONN18116  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 XGDS-1  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** P750029-2105  
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**Office:** ORIGIN BONN  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08-Aug-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <20-Aug-2001 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** U.S./EUROPEAN RELATIONS IN AFTERMATH OF NATO MINISTERIAL AND COPENHAGEN  
**TAGS:** PEPR, US, GE  
**To:** STATE  
SECDEF INFO VIENNA  
ANKARA  
ATHENS  
BRUSSELS  
COPENHAGEN  
THE HAGUE

EC SUMMIT

LONDON  
OSLO  
OTTAWA  
PARIS  
ROME  
GENEVA  
NATO BRUSSELS  
EC BRUSSELS  
LISBON  
MADRID

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005